

PATENTS
Customer No.: 006980
Docket No.: GTRC135

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)	Confirmation No.: 3089
)	
JIMENEZ, J.H., <i>et al.</i>)	Group Art Unit: 3738
)	
Serial No.: 10/561,900)	Examiner: MATTHEWS, W.H.
)	
Filed: 22 DECEMBER 2005)	
)	
Title: ANNULOPLASTY CHAIN)	Atty. Docket No.: GTRC135

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 via the USPTO's EFS-Web Electronic Filing System on **17 FEB 2009**.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Honorable Sir:

In accordance with the continuing duty under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("PTO") any information that may be material to patentability of the above-identified Application, please find enclosed form PTO/SB/08A listing references presently known to Applicants. The cited references were uncovered during prosecution of a co-pending counterpart European patent application.

The submission of this information shall not be deemed an admission that this information is necessarily material to the patentability of the above-identified Application. In addition, the submission of this information shall not be deemed that a search has been conducted. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (g)-(h).

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the documents listed on the enclosed PTO/SB/08A form prior to the preparation of a first *Office Action* and initial where indicated on the form after reviewing the listed documents.

Applicants believe no fee is due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 as this IDS is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits. The Commissioner is, however, authorized to charge any deficiency in fees to Deposit Account No. 20-1507.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATE: 17 FEB 2009